

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 185970

62

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 185970

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

REF: LIBREVILLE 1169

FOL REPEAT STATE 184970 SENT ACTION LIBREVILLE AUG 6

QTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 185970

STADIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, TP, US, FR

SUBJECT: DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE

REF:LIBREVILLE 1169

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FOR AMBASSADOR STEIGMAN

1. WE HAVE REVIEWED PROPOSAL SET FORTH IN REFTEL BUT SEE NO COMPELLING REASON TO FOLLOW FRENCH LEAD AT THIS TIME. WE ASSUME THREE-WEEK-OLD GOVERNMENT OF SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE IS STILL SORTING ITSELF OUT AND WILL RESPOND TO PRESIDENT FORD'S LETTER IN DUE COURSE. IF THIS HAS NOT HAPPENED BEFORE UNGA, WE CAN RAISE THE QUESTION WITH STP THERE.

2. WE DO SEE SOME RISK THAT IN FOLLOWING FRENCH IN HOT PURSUIT WE WOULD RAISE FALSE EXPECTATIONS ABOUT AID OR BE DRAWN INTO JOINT COMMUNIQUE EMBODYING COMMITMENT, HOWEVER VAGUE, ON THIS SUBJECT.

3. WE WELCOME ANY FURTHER THOUGHTS EMBASSY MAY HAVE ON SUBJECT. IN THIS CONNECTION, WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN KNOWING WHAT OTHER COUNTRIES WITH DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS IN LIBREVILLE ARE DOING ABOUT ESTABLISHING RELATIONS WITH STP. KISSINGER

UNQTE

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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